

TRIBUTE TO RABBI CHAIM
SEIDLER-FELLER

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 1998

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Rabbi Chaim Seidler-Feller for his tremendous contributions as Director of Hillel Council at UCLA for more than two decades.

Hillel provides meaningful service to UCLA students by offering them an opportunity to experience Jewish life and ritual away from home. Many students come to Hillel to continue to practice in the Jewish faith, while others are introduced to the traditions of the faith at Hillel.

Rabbi Seidler-Feller has created and introduced many new and innovative programs at Hillel designed to embrace the diverse cross-section of the student population. For example, he has sponsored conferences and seminars that explore the unique relationship between African-American and Jewish students.

In addition to his remarkable contributions to Hillel, Rabbi Seidler-Feller has been actively involved as a teacher and lecturer at UCLA, Hebrew Union College, and the University of Judaism. We owe Rabbi Seidler-Feller a debt of gratitude for his vision, his devotion, and his support of this vital UCLA institution.

I am delighted to bring Rabbi Seidler-Feller's tireless and selfless work to the attention of my colleagues and ask you to join me in saluting him for his many important contributions.

IN HONOR OF THE FIFTIETH ANNI-
VERSARY OF THE BAY VILLAGE
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 1998

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a truly remarkable organization dedicated to promoting informed and active citizen participation in government. For the last fifty years, the Bay Village, Ohio chapter of the League of Women Voters has educated the citizens of Bay Village in each citizen's political responsibility. This organization effectively serves Bay Village in the arena of citizenship and public activism.

Founded in 1920, the national nonpartisan League of Women Voters established itself on the principles of voter responsibility. Women had just received the right to vote, and this organization wanted to ensure that all voters would have the necessary resources to cast an educated vote. The League of Women Voters of Bay Village continued this proud tradition with the establishment of the local chapter in 1948. On the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of this chapter, the League continues to make an educated voter its first priority. By supporting citizen participation in government and influencing public policy through education and advocacy, the chapter clearly has an influence on the educated voter.

For fifty years, the League of Women Voters of Bay Village has encouraged good citizen-

ship and voter understanding of government. This organization's outstanding service to the community and to the country is commendable.

My fellow colleagues, join me in celebrating the anniversary of a patriotic organization that is dedicated to the task of informing the average voter: The League of Women Voters of Bay Village, Ohio.

IN HONOR OF RABBI JOSEPH I.
WEISS

HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 1998

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a few minutes today to honor and acknowledge a shining member of our religious community for his services to the people of the Rockaway Peninsula.

I ask my colleagues today to join me in recognizing Rabbi Joseph I. Weiss on the occasion of his 85th birthday for the many ways in which he has enriched his community with his religious leadership and adventurous spirit. His sense of civic duty has not stopped with his own temple, rather driving him to make a difference throughout all of New York.

Rabbi Weiss has served as spiritual leader of the congregation at the West End Temple in Neponsit New York for forty-nine years. He is a member of the New York Board of Rabbis and is past president of both the New York Association of Reform Rabbis and the Brooklyn Association of Reform Rabbis. He also serves as the first Vice-President of the National Association of Retired Reform Rabbis.

The Rabbi has an outstanding commitment to the community beyond his temple. He is the holder of the Shofar Award for service to Jewish Scouting in recognition for his time as a Board Member of the South Shore Division of the Boy Scouts of America. Rabbi Weiss has worked diligently to promote interfaith unity and to that end he has served as a board member for the Rockaway Interfaith Clergy and has been a hard-working member of the board for the Rockaway Catholic-Jewish Relations Committee. These commitments, plus his position as the Senior Active Member of the Rockaway Rotary Club have truly made a difference in the lives of others.

Rabbi Weiss received his B.A. in 1934 from the University of Cincinnati and his Rabbinical Ordination from Hebrew Union College in 1939. During World War II he was an Army Chaplain serving in the South Pacific and was the President of the Association of Jewish Military Chaplains of the United States. Before joining the West End Temple in 1949, Rabbi Weiss led Temple Israel in Columbus, Georgia from 1947 to 1948.

At 85, the Rabbi remains very active athletically and socially. He plays tennis and golf, ice skates, and is a member of the 70 Plus Ski Club. He is also a patron of the Rockaway Music and Arts Council. He has traveled extensively throughout the world and has made many visits to Israel.

It is my honor to recognize Rabbi Joseph I. Weiss today for both his religious guidance and his exuberant service to the State of New York.

ANTITRUST

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 1998

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert my Washington Report for Wednesday, April 8, 1998 into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

AN ANTITRUST REVIVAL

The Justice Department's recent decision to sue defense giant Lockheed Martin to block its proposed \$12 billion purchase of Northrop Grumman reflects a trend toward tougher enforcement of our antitrust laws. The federal government is giving closer scrutiny to mergers and consolidations in a wide range of industries, including everything from defense and health care to telephones and airlines. It is also taking a harder look at the growing dominance of firms in the high-tech field, most notably Microsoft.

This revival of antitrust reflects a sea change from the 1980s, when deregulation and free markets were emphasized. Back then, antitrust was viewed as government meddling in the operation of free markets, and was rarely enforced. Antitrust regulators continue to approve most of the mergers then investigate, but the fact that they are investigating many more proposed mergers and, in certain cases, suing to block them is a notable development.

Purpose and enforcement: Antitrust law has its origins in the Progressive Era of the late 19th Century. The landmark laws of the time, the Sherman Act of 1890 and the Clayton Act of 1914, aimed at curbing the power of trusts, the large combinations of industrial interests. The Sherman Act bars combinations which unreasonably restrain trade. The clearest example of a violation would be competitors in a given industry agreeing to fix prices. The Act also prohibits a dominant firm in a given market from acting to monopolize commerce in that market. The Clayton Act forbids mergers which have the effect of substantially lessening competition or creating a monopoly. What precisely these vaguely-worded statutes require has been left to the courts and regulators to decide over the years.

Antitrust law has two primary objectives. First, it seeks to promote vigorous competition in the U.S. economy. Competition is desirable because it tends to keep costs and prices lower, encourage the efficient allocation of economic resources, and provide for innovation and consumer choice. The presumption of antitrust law is that the normal operation of the free markets will foster competition. Government will only step in where there is evidence of anti-competitive conduct. Second, antitrust law aims to limit the concentration of corporate power. The concern in the Progressive Era was that the large corporate trusts threatened to trample individual liberties, and that suspicion of big business persists.

Antitrust enforcement has waxed and waned over the years. While regulators brought some high-profile cases, including the one that broke up Standard Oil in 1911, enforcement in the early years was lax. The Great Depression ushered in a period of tougher enforcement as the American public demanded stricter regulation of corporations the pendulum swung back the other way in the 1980s, reflecting the Reagan Administration's preference for free markets. Antitrust enforcement is shifting again. The prevailing view today is that free markets work, but don't work perfectly and government intervention may be necessary to prevent overreaching by powerful market players.